

DAVIDSON

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Davidson County Agriculture Center - 301 East Center Street
Lexington, NC 27292
Telephone: (336) 242-2075

Published quarterly to provide information to the land users.

CONSERVATION Update

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Envirothon - Big News



On March 17th and 18th teams of 23 middle school and 22 high school students from the Area VIII Districts, made up of twelve counties, gathered at Catawba College Center for the Environment to compete in the Southern Piedmont Envirothon. The competition tested their knowledge in the areas of aquatics, current environmental issues, forestry, soils, and wildlife. Davidson County had 9 middle school teams and 3 high school teams competing in this event. Davidson County had 4 teams to qualify to compete in the State Envirothon. In the high school competition, the *High Rock Green 3* from Davidson County Home School placed 2nd and the *Westchester Wildcats* from Westchester Country Day School placed 6th. In the middle school competition, the *High Rock Hoots* and the *High Rock Water Pennies* from Davidson County Home School came in 1st and 2nd place. At the State Envirothon held at Cedar Rock Park in Alamance County on April 24th and 25th, there were 43 middle school and 47 high school teams competing. The *High Rock Hoots* and the *High Rock Water Pennies* won 1st and 2nd place at the State middle school competition, and the *High Rock Green 3* placed 3rd in the State high school competition. Congratulations to each of you!



"Wetlands are Wonderful"

Congratulations to our County's poster and essay winners, **Ashley Godwin**, a 6th grade student from Ledford Middle School and **Taylor Williams**, a 6th grade student from Tyro Middle School whose poster and essay were both selected as the 2nd Place Winners in the Area VIII Poster Contest. Area VIII consists of 12 counties. Ashley's poster won 1st place at the school level and 1st place in the County Poster Contest. Taylor's essay won 1st place at the school level and 1st place in the County Essay Contest. Ashley and Taylor will be presented with trophies, plaques, certificates, ribbons, and monetary awards at the school Awards Assembly.

* * 2015 Conservation Farm Family * *

Congratulations to Rodney and Donna Fulton for being selected as our 2015 Conservation Farm Family for this year. Their farm is located in the northern area of the County. They have installed many practices on the farm to conserve and protect the soil and improve water quality. They will be honored at our Annual Awards Banquet in September. More information on this family and their farm will be in the next issue of the Conservation Update.

~ Reminders ~

All programs and services provided by the Davidson Soil and Water Conservation District are available to you at no cost.

Test your soil prior to planting. Come by our office to pick up a free soil test kit.


Soil conservation is easy if you do it with a plan and take it one step at a time.

Pick up an application in our office to become a member of the Voluntary Agriculture District.

For more information about any of the above, call our office at 336-242-2075

<p><u>Resource Conservation Workshop June 21st -26th</u></p> <p>Each year our District sponsors one or more high school students who are interested in conservation of natural resources to attend a one-week workshop on the campus of NC State University. The primary objective of this workshop is learning about natural resources and their management in today’s environment. It is a week of intensive study requiring student participation in a wide range of conservation topics. Participants will meet and receive guidance from natural resource professionals and have a chance to win cash awards and scholarship money. Subjects to be covered are: Soil Characteristics & Soil Conservation, Wildlife & Fisheries Management, Forest Management, Nonagricultural uses for Soils, Water Quality & Watershed Management. Students will be housed in the Carroll Residence Hall on campus. This is an expense paid workshop sponsored by the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation. In order to qualify, please return applications by May 12th. Contact our office for more information about this workshop, or please visit: http://www.ncagr.gov/sw/rcw.html</p>	<p><u>NC Envirothon School for Advisors/Teachers</u></p> <p>The Envirothon School for advisors and teachers is an opportunity to participate in specialized training while also earning credit toward teacher CEUs or the NC Environmental Education Certification. If you are interested in helping students develop leadership skills while becoming environmentally aware citizens through curriculum and competitions, please register for the Envirothon School. The curriculum includes forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatics, and will be held during July in the Raleigh-Durham Area. For more information please visit: www.ncenvirothon.org</p>
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If you are interested in receiving our quarterly newsletter electronically, or know of someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact our office at 336-242-2075.

	<p><u>“Get on Board” – 2015 Field Crop & Conservation Farm Tour</u></p> <p>Plans are in progress for our annual farm tour hosted by the Davidson Soil & Water Conservation District, USDA-NRCS, and the Davidson County Cooperative Extension. The tour date has not been scheduled yet, but we will travel to several sites within the county. It is designed for interested adults to view the latest agricultural innovations and farming practices. The tour is free of charge and is limited to the first 60 adults who call in their reservation. The tour fills up fast, so make your reservation early by calling 336-242-2075. The deadline for taking reservations will be decided at a later date.</p>
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PUBLIC AWARENESS! Please use caution when using chemicals. Read the label and follow the manufacturer’s instructions and precautions. If herbicides are handled or applied improperly or if used portions are not disposed of safely, they may injure humans, domestic animals, plants, fish or other wildlife and may contaminate nearby crops and other vegetation. Herbicides should not be used over or directly adjacent to ponds, lakes or streams.

<p><u>2015 Environmental Science Camp</u></p> <p>A week long day camp will be held July 27th - July 31st from 8 am – 5 pm, and will be directed by Andy Miller, Davidson County Director of Soil & Water Conservation. The camp is designed to provide insight into a variety of environmental science issues for students in grades 6-12. This is the 6th year our camp will be offered and will incorporate numerous field trips and conduct classroom instructions with an emphasis on water, soils, forestry, wildlife, and the environment. The cost of the camp is \$25.00. Group size will be limited to 25 students. Call 336-242-2075 for more information or to register.</p>	<p><u>NO-TILL DRILL</u></p> <p>Davidson Soil & Water Conservation District has a Truax Flex II 88 no-till drill available for rent for \$12 per acre. Operating the drill requires at least a 40 horsepower tractor with hydraulic capability. Seeding width is 5.3 feet with an overall transport width of approx. 8 feet. The drill is capable of planting small seeds (clover, legumes), fluffy seed (native warm season grasses), cool season grasses, small grain, millet and soybeans. Come by the District Office at 301 E. Center Street or call 336-242-2075 to schedule a time to use the drill.</p>
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Thank you for your interest in soil, water, and natural resource conservation.

Public Notification Procedures – Current Non-Discrimination Statement – The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TDD).

For more information about anything in this newsletter, call us at 336-242-2075 or check us out on the Web: www.co.davidson.nc.us

Please Remember The Advertisers Who Make This Newsletter Possible:

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